

STUDY TITLE: Social Indicators Study of Alaskan Coastal Villages.

REPORT TITLE: Key Informant Summaries. Volume 1: Schedule A Regions.

CONTRACT NUMBER: 14-12-0001-30300. Technical Report No. 151.

SPONSORING OCS REGION: Alaska.

APPLICABLE PLANNING AREAS: Beaufort Sea, Chukchi Sea, Hope Basin, Norton Basin, Navarin Basin, St. Matthew Hall, St. George Basin, Aleutian Basin, Bowers Basin, North Aleutian Basin, Aleutian Arc, Shumagin.

FISCAL YEARS OF PROJECT FUNDING: FY 1987-FY 1992 (inclusive).

COMPLETION DATE OF REPORT: August 1992.

COSTS : FY 1987: \$399,766; FY 1988: \$194,243; FY 1989: \$263,600; FY 1990: \$200,176; FY 1991: \$77,854; FY 1992: \$486; CUMULATIVE PROJECT COST: \$1,136,125.

PROJECT NANAGER: Dr. Joseph G. Jorgensen.

AFFILIATION: Program in Comparative Culture, University of California, Irvine, California; Human Relations Area Files, New Haven, Connecticut.

ADDRESS: Program in Comparative Culture, 579 Social Science Tower, University of California, Irvine, California, 92717; Human Relations Area Files, P.O. Box 2054, Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut, 06520.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr. Joseph G. Jorgensen.

KEY WORDS: Kaktovik; Anaktuvuk Pass; Nuiqsut; Barrow; Wainwright; Pt. Hope; Kivalina; Kotzebue; Buckland; Deering; Alakanuk; Scammon Bay; Toksook Bay; Bethel; Nunapitchuk; Aniak; Unalaska; Sand Point; St. Paul; Nikolski; Atka; North Slope; NANA Region; Calista Region; Yukon-Kuskokwim region; Aleutian-Pribilof Islands: quality of life; ethnography; ethnohistory; anthropology; social and cultural change; economy; demography; institutional and political organization; family life; subsistence; Alaska Natives; ideology and belief systems; social impacts.

BACKGROUND: Alaska is one of the most promising areas in the world for petroleum exploration and development. At the same time, however, it is one of the richest commercial fishing regions in the world; its offshore waters (such as the Bering Sea) host diverse and extremely productive biological resources aside from commercially valuable fish: and the economic, social, and cultural

roles of these resources are significant. Alaska Natives who live in proximity to remote exploration areas and who rely on renewable biological resources may be particularly susceptible to social impacts of petroleum exploration and development. These factors have motivated a series of social and economic studies in rural Alaska designed to assess potential human impacts of development. One recent thrust of these studies has aimed towards the development of monitoring strategies that use discrete social measurements (social indicators) .

OBJECTIVES: To develop a systematic social indicators system that permits analysts to collect standardized data on a regular, repetitive basis that measure sociocultural change in coastal Alaskan communities that may be associated with petroleum exploration and development. The key informant summaries provide descriptive ethnographic information useful for interpretation of social indicators data.

DESCRIPTION: Questionnaires (forced-choice instruments), open-ended protocols, participant-observation, genealogies, and other interview techniques were used to collect data from a random sample of households (sampled without replacement) in thirty one communities. Overall the sample is predominantly Eskimo (Yupik and Iñupiaq) and Aleut. A Solomon-Four Group design utilizing panels was used to optimize validity and reliability and eliminate some common threats to validity, such as ecological fallacy. The overall sample was divided into two parts: schedule A and schedule B. In schedule A (described here) there are twenty one communities: Kaktovik, Anaktuvuk Pass, Nuiqsut, Barrow, Wainwright, Pt. Hope, Kivalina, Kotzebue, Buckland, Deering, Alakanuk, Scammon Bay, Toksook Bay, Bethel, Nunapitchuk, Aniak, Unalaska, Sand Point, St. Paul, Nikolski, and Atka. Most data were turned over to formal analysis that is not reported here. The key informant summaries are based on the research teams' observations, interviews, personal experience, subjective inferences, and analysis of historical and archival data (such as ethnographies, economic and employment statistics, and planning documents) .

SIGNIFICANT CONCLUSIONS: The key informant summaries did not arrive at conclusions inasmuch as their purpose was to provide descriptive information for the formal analysis. Conclusions in the form of concluding hypotheses resulted only from the formal analysis.

STUDY RESULTS: The key informant summary data show that there are significant continuities in Alaska Native culture despite rapid and irreversible culture change over the last century. These continuities are prominent in the areas of subsistence foods and dietary preferences; cultural ideologies related to generosity, sharing, and kinship; and cooperative activities that generally involve both subsistence and social or kinship networks. Despite great strides in health care and economic development over the last

fifty years, rural (mainly Alaska Native) villages in the sample are chronically impoverished and health status lags far behind national and Alaska standards. The key social and cultural trends in sample communities are profoundly influenced by political and economic conditions and decisions at the state and national levels. These communities are now totally enmeshed in a global political economy. Future economic prospects are generally cloudy and state revenues are declining; investments in the rural sector are risky and few investors are assuming that risk: and political support for rural or Native development and social programs is uncertain at both state and federal levels.

STUDY PRODUCTS: Brelsford, T., A. Fienup-Riordan, J. Jorgensen, S. McNabb, P. Petrivelli, and L. Robbins. 1992. Social Indicators Study of Alaskan Coastal Villages I. Key Informant Summaries. Volume 1: Schedule A Regions. Prepared by Human Relations Area Files for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service Alaska OCS Region, Anchorage, Alaska. Technical Report No. 151. MMS Report Number 92-0031. Contract No. 14-12-0001-30300.

Endter-Wada, J., J. Hofmeister, R. Mason, S. McNabb, and J. Mulcahy. 1992. Social Indicators Study of Alaskan Coastal Villages I. Key Informant Summaries. Volume 2: Schedule B Regions. Prepared by Human Relations Area Files for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service Alaska OCS Region, Anchorage, Alaska. Technical Report No. 152. MMS Report Number 92-0032. Contract No. 14-12-0001-30300.

An electronic data base of study data is maintained by the Minerals Management Service Alaska OCS Region, Anchorage, Alaska.